

Shoprite gets Ntsoanatsatsi community gardening

The success of the Ntsoanatsatsi Educare Trust's food garden in Phuthaditjhaba, Free State, motivated Shoprite to donate 'garden in a bucket' starter kits to community members in the area to ensure greater food security.

The starter kits contain essential garden resources including seedlings, hand tools, organic fertiliser and a training manual to equip community members to start their own food gardens. The necessary education and training are also provided to ensure the gardens' success.

"We're so grateful for Shoprite's support and excited to start our own gardens at home. My family will soon be enjoying more nutritious meals with my own home-grown fresh produce," said Phahla Mathe, one of the community members who received a 'garden in a bucket' starter kit.

"This initiative addresses food security at a household level by equipping families to grow their own nutritious food for at least a year," says Sanjeev Raghubir, Group Sustainability Manager.

Hunger relief and food security are at the core of the Shoprite Group's corporate social investment programmes. The retailer supports more than 170 community food gardens and over 3 400 home gardens, which impacts almost 50 000 beneficiaries. In the past year, more than 2 500 community members were trained in sustainable food gardening, assisting them to grow nutritious and organic food.

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